

WHAT IS CLAIMED:

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1. A method, comprising:
- establishing classification categories for a variety of communications transmissions effected via a packet data network;
- establishing priority sequencing guidelines for the classification categories;
- receiving at least one communication transmission via the packet data network;
- and
- assigning a classification category to the communications transmission.
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2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
- storing the communications transmissions according to the classification category assigned thereto.
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3. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
- selecting one of the stored communications transmissions for presentation to a user.
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4. The method of claim 3, further comprising:
- presenting the selected communications transmission to the user.

5. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

generating a signal to alert a user of the receipt of a communication.

6. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

generating a separate signal for each classification category or user defined  
amalgamation of classification categories to alert a user of the receipt of a  
communication belonging to each said category or belonging to the user defined  
amalgamation of various classification categories.

7. A method, comprising:

transmitting over a packet data network, from a first communications processing  
device to a second communications processing device, information indicative of  
communications monitoring and control functions desired by a user of the first  
communication processing device, the first communications processing device  
being located separately from any of at least two nodes of the packet data network;  
arranging for a packetized communications session between the at least two nodes  
of the packet data network, said arrangement being accomplished through the  
second communications processing device;  
establishing classification categories for communications transmissions;  
establishing priority sequencing guidelines for the classification categories;  
causing the packetized communications session to occur;

determining into which classification category the communications transmission goes; and  
reporting information via the packet data network indicative of the session to the first communications processing device from the second communications processing device.

8. The method of claim 7, further comprising storing the communications transmission according to the classification category assigned thereto.

9. The method of claim 7, further comprising selecting one of the stored communications transmissions for presentation to a user.

10. The method of claim 9, further comprising presenting the selected communications transmission to the user.

11. The method of claim 6, further comprising generating a signal to alert a user of the receipt of a communication.

12. The method of claim 6, further comprising:  
generating a separate signal for each classification category or user defined amalgamation of classification categories to alert a user of the receipt of a

communication belonging to each classification category or belonging to the  
each user defined amalgamation of various classification categories.

- 5 13. An article comprising a computer readable medium having instructions stored  
thereon which when executed causes:  
establishing classification categories for a variety of communications  
transmissions effected via a packet data network;  
establishing priority sequencing guidelines for the classification categories;  
receiving at least one communication transmission via the packet data network;  
and  
assigning a classification category to the communications transmission.
14. An article according to claim 13, which when executed further causes:  
15 storing the communications transmissions according to the classification  
category assigned thereto.
15. An article according to claim 13, which when executed further causes:  
selecting one of the stored communications transmissions for presentation to a  
20 user; and  
presenting the selected communications transmission to the user.

16. An article according to claim 13, which when executed further causes:  
generating a signal to alert a user of the receipt of a communication.

5 17. An article comprising a computer readable medium having instructions stored  
thereon which when executed causes:  
transmitting over a packet data network, from a first communications processing  
device to a second communications processing device, information indicative of  
communications monitoring and control functions desired by a user of the first  
communication processing device, the first communications processing device  
being located separately from any of at least two nodes of the packet data network;  
arranging for a packetized communications session between the at least two nodes  
of the packet data network, said arrangement being accomplished through the  
second communications processing device;  
15 establishing classification categories for communications transmissions;  
establishing priority sequencing guidelines for the classification categories;  
causing the packetized communications session to occur;  
determining into which classification category the communications transmission  
goes; and  
20 reporting information via the packet data network indicative of the session to the  
first communications processing device from the second communications

processing device.

18. An article according to claim 17, which when executed additionally causes:  
storing the communications transmission according to the classification category  
assigned thereto.
19. An article according to claim 18, which when executed additionally causes:  
selecting one of the stored communications transmissions for presentation to a  
user; and  
presenting the selected communications transmission to the user.
20. An article according to claim 18, which when executed additionally causes:  
generating a signal to alert a user of the receipt of a communication.
21. An article according to claim 18, which when executed additionally causes:  
generating a separate signal for each classification category, or user defined  
amalgamation of classification categories, to alert a user of the receipt of a  
communication belonging to each classification category, or belonging to the  
each user defined amalgamation of various classification categories.